

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A process comprising:
2 monitoring a database to detect changes to accessed data in the database; and
3 updating the accessed data during use of the data in accordance with synchronization
4 rules in response to the detected changes.

1 2. A device comprising:
2 a processor monitoring a database to detect changes to accessed data in the database,
3 and updating the accessed data during use of the data in accordance with synchronization
4 rules in response to the detected changes.

1 3. A process comprising:
2 accessing data stored in a database;
3 inputting the accessed data to a form;
4 using the form with the inputted accessed data by a first user;
5 monitoring the database to detect changes to the accessed data by a second user
6 while the form is being used by the first user; and
7 updating the accessed data in the form while being used by the first user in
8 accordance with rules corresponding to the detected changes.

1 4. The process according to claim 3, further comprising:
2 displaying update status of the accessed data in accordance with the updating; and
3 storing the inputted accessed data used by the first user in the database.

1 5. A device comprising:
2 a processor to access data stored in a database, to input the accessed data to a form,
3 to use the form with the input accessed data by a first user, to monitor the database to
4 detect changes to the accessed data by a second user while the form is being used by the

5 first user, and to update the accessed data in the form while being used by the first user in
6 accordance with rules corresponding to the detected changes.

1 6. The device according to claim 5, wherein the rules synchronize simultaneous
2 changes made by the first user and the second user to the accessed data.

1 7. The device according to claim 5, wherein the rules are based upon
2 characteristic of edits by a second user to the accessed data and characteristic of the
3 accessed data.

1 8. The device according to claim 5, wherein use of the accessed data by the
2 first user includes editing the accessed data.

1 9. The device according to claim 5, wherein the processor provides update
2 notification to the first user while the form is being used by the first user.

1 10. The device according to claim 9, wherein the update notification comprises
2 displaying update history information corresponding to each accessed data in the form.

1 11. The device according to claim 10, wherein the update notification includes
2 displaying the accessed data in different colors in accordance with the updating.

1 12. The device according to claim 10, wherein the update notification includes
2 associating comment bubbles with the accessed data.

1 13. The device according to claim 5, wherein the inputted accessed data is stored
2 locally and the database is stored remotely.

1 14. The device according to claim 5, wherein the processor further maintains a
2 change log of the accessed data.

1 15. A device comprising:
2 means for accessing data stored in a database;
3 means for inputting the accessed data to a form;
4 means for using the form with the inputted accessed data by a first user;
5 means for monitoring the database to detect changes to the accessed data by a
6 second user while the form is being used by the first user; and
7 means for updating the accessed data in the form while being used by the first user
8 in accordance with rules corresponding to the detected changes.

1 16. A system to automatically update forms, the system comprising:
2 a server storing data in a database; and
3 clients connected to the server via a network and accessing the data stored in the
4 database, wherein the accessed data is input to a form used by a first user, the database
5 being monitored to detect changes to the accessed data by a second user while the form is
6 being used by the first user, and the accessed data in the form being updated while being
7 used by the first user in accordance with rules corresponding to the detected changes.

1 17. A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for
2 implementing a method of automatically updating forms to be performed by a computer,
3 the method comprising:
4 accessing data stored in a database;
5 inputting the accessed data to a form;
6 using the form with the inputted accessed data by a first user;
7 monitoring the database to detect changes to the accessed data by a second user
8 while the form is being used by the first user; and
9 updating the accessed data in the form while being used by the first user in
10 accordance with rules corresponding to the detected changes.